

Beirut Blast – School Needs Assessment

Swiss Business Council Lebanon SBCL



The Beirut blast, on 4 August 2020, created extensive damage to nearly 160 public and private schools, affecting learning opportunities for more than 85,000 children in schools in Lebanon. As the Ministry of Education and Higher Education undertakes the extensive repairs needed to schools and their equipment, as well as to simultaneously establish safe and high-quality teaching during COVID-19, the kindness of partners such as the Swiss Business Council Lebanon is invaluable. Through this partnership, three high schools in Beirut will be fully prepared for safe re-opening. This affects a total of 1,105 students, already enrolled, who would otherwise receive a lower quality of instruction and preparation for their Brevet and Baccalaureate final exams. All three of these schools get higher than average results and it's important that they reopen. These exams set a student's future in train, separating those who can go onto higher education or training in careers of their choice, and those who will have reduced income opportunities in future.

School 1: Gebran Tueni High School-Achrafieh

Number of Students	233
Number of Teachers	47
Primary / Secondary; Number of grades	Secondary From grade 7 to 12
Boys / girls	Mixed classes
Language of instruction	French
Geographical area	Achrafieh, Beirut
Baccalaureate results 2018-19	46.8%

Damage and equipment needs

Damages to the structure	Doors removed; Windows broken.
Damages to equipment	Extensive computer damage; many desks no longer usable.
Devices needed for periods of distance learning	50 devices for teachers. 260 devices if all students to receive (allowing for additional enrollment). Or 130 as learning will be one week in, one week out of school as long as lock-downs do not return in Beirut.
Textbooks needed for learning ¹	Approximately 780 textbooks would allow each student to own a textbook for three of their core subjects. Some textbooks would be shared

¹ The current lira devaluation is making usual school reopening functions, such as printing textbooks, unaffordable. Whilst the Ministry is encouraging previous students to sell their textbooks, or return them to schools, many children will lack an up to date text; including at a time when they may be studying at home.

School 2: Riad El Solh High School-Ras An-Nabeh

Number of Students	498
Number of Teachers	63
Primary / Secondary; Number of grades	Secondary From grade 7 to 12
Boys / girls	Mixed classes
Language of instruction	French
Geographical area	Achrafieh, Beirut
Baccalaureate results 2018-19	93.1%

Damage and equipment needs

Damages to the structure	Doors damaged; Windows Damaged. School had a fully glazed glass façade which needs replacing
Damages to equipment	NA
Devices needed for periods of distance learning	75 devices for teachers; 520 devices for students allowing for some additional enrollment; or 260 if sharing.
Textbooks needed for learning	1,560 textbooks would allow each student 3 textbooks/subjects to work on at home

School 3: Laure Moughayzel-Achrafieh

Number of Students	374
Number of Teachers	55
Primary / Secondary; Number of grades	Secondary From Grade 7 to 12
Boys / girls	Girls
Language of instruction	French
Geographical area	Achrafieh, Beirut
Baccalaureate results 2018-19	65.7%

Damage and equipment needs

Damages to the structure	Concrete structure severely damaged; false ceiling fallen in; doors blown out; windows shattered
Damages to equipment	Multiple desks damaged and unusable
Devices needed for periods of distance learning	55 devices for teachers; 400 devices for students or 200 if sharing.
Textbooks needed for learning	1,200 textbooks would allow each student 3 textbooks/ subjects to work on at home

	Type A: K-G3 KG and Cycle 1	Type B: G4-G9 (Cycles 2 and 3)	Type C: Teachers + G10-12 (cycle 4)
Processor	Intel® Celeron® N4100 or similar Quad-Core 1.1-2.4 Ghz CPU, Released in 2019 or later	Intel i3 or AMD Ryzen 3 (Quad Core 1.2 to 3.2 Ghz Speed), Released in 2019 or later	Intel i5 or AMD Ryzen 5 (Quad-Core 3 to 4 Ghz Speed), Released in 2019 or later
Operating System	Recommended: Windows 10 Pro (Could be part of the Microsoft's Shape the Future program for up to	Recommended: Windows 10 Pro (Could be part of the Microsoft's Shape the Future program for up to 99% discounts)	Recommended: Windows 10 Pro
Classroom Management Software	Required.	Required.	Required.
Display Type	Minimum 11 " Touch Screen 2-in-1 or 360 hinge	Minimum 13" Touch Screen Laptop,2-in-1, or 360 hinge	Minimum 13" Touch Screen Laptop,2-in-1, or 360 hinge
Memory	4 GB RAM	8 GB RAM	8 GB RAM
Hard Drive	Minimum: 128GB eMMC	Minimum: 128GB eMMC + 256 GB HDD.	Minimum: 128GB eMMC + 256 GB HDD
Graphics	Integrated Intel® UHD Graphics or similar	Integrated Intel® UHD Graphics or similar	Integrated Intel® UHD Graphics or similar
Battery Life	Min. 8 hours	Min. 8 hours	Min. 8 hours
Connectivity	Wi-Fi + Bluetooth + LTE	Wi-Fi + Bluetooth + LTE	Wi-Fi + Bluetooth + LTE
Camera	720p HD for Synchronous learning	720p HD for Synchronous learning	720p HD for Synchronous learning
Pen	Pen Enabled + Pen (Included & Attachable to Body) Palm Rejection Scratch Resistant	Pen Enabled + Pen (Included & Attachable to Body) Palm Rejection Scratch Resistant (Optional)	Pen Enabled + Pen (Included & Attachable to Body) Palm Rejection Scratch Resistant
Keyboard	US English + Arabic	US English + Arabic	US English + Arabic
Chassis	Rugged Body	External Ruggedized Cover	External Ruggedized Cover
Accessories	Heavy-duty Device Bag + Heavy-duty Wired Mouse	Heavy-duty Device Bag + Heavy-duty Wired Mouse	Heavy-duty Device Bag + Heavy-duty Wired Mouse
Warranty & Support	3 years	3 years	3 years
Estimated at:	\$300	\$400	\$600